

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 07176 200823Z

20

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4933

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7176

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO TU PK US

SUBJECT: CENTO POLITICAL WORKING GROUP MEETS

REF: (A) ANKARA 5553, (B) ANKARA 7083

1. CENTO POLITICAL WORKING GROUP (PWG) MET SEPT 17
AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE PREVIOUS
MEETING (REF A) DISCUSSED BOTH REVISION II AND REVISION II OF
THE DRAFT POLITICAL GUIDANCE FOR MILITARY PLANNING. THE SECRE-
TARIAT HAD CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE MEETING A NEW DOCUMENT
(CD/76/PWG/D2) WHICH CONTAINED BOTH REVISIONS. ADDITIONALLY,
THE BRITISH EMBASSY HAD CIRCULATED A PAPER WITH SUGGESTED
ADDITIONAL CHANGES.

2. AS DISCUSSION GOT UNDER WAY, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT
DESPITE THE EARLIER EFFORT OF THE IRANIANS TO REESTABLISH
REVISION II AS A BASIC DOCUMENT, THE IRANIAN REPRESENTATIVE
WAS PREPARED TO IGNORE REVISION II DURING THE DISCUSSIONS.
THEREFORE, THE PARAGRAPHS OF REVISION III WERE TAKEN UP
CONSECUTIVELY (AS THEY HAD BEEN IN NOVEMBER 1975) TO
DETERMINE AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT.

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 07176 200823Z

3. PARA 1 WAS APPROVED BY ALL NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES.

THE DISCUSSION OF PARA 2 QUICKLY BOGGED DOWN WHEN THE UK DELEGATE OFFERED AN AMENDMENT DESIGNED TO SOFTEN THE LAST HALF OF THE FIRST SENTENCE. THE PAKISTANI REPRESENTATIVE REACTED STRONGLY AGAINST THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT. ALL OTHER REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING THE US, INDICATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THE BRITISH AMENDMENT. (THE BRITISH PROPOSAL IS TO DELETE THE PHRASE BEGINNING "WHO MAY ACT" AND ENDING "INFLUENCE" AND ADDING JUST PRIOR TO THE FINAL SENTENCE THE NEW SENTENCE, "THE SOVIET UNION ALSO SEEKS TO DEVELOP POSITIONS OF INFLUENCE IN COUNTRIES ADJACENT TO THE CENTO REGION.") AFTER A LONG AND FRUITLESS DISCUSSION, THE CHAIRMAN ASKED THE UK AND PAKISTANI REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET AND ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE PRIOR TO THE NEXT PWG MEETING.

4. PARA 3, WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE PWG IN NOVEMBER 1975, WAS REOPENED BY THE UK REPRESENTATIVE WHO PROPOSED TWO CHANGES. THE FIRST WAS TO DELETE "GOOD" FROM THE FIRST SENTENCE. ALL REPRESENTATIVES AGREED. THE SECOND WAS TO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SECOND SENTENCE THE NEW SENTENCE, "IT WILL PARTICULARLY PROMOTE RELATIONS WITH GOVTS WHOSE POLICIES COINCIDE WITH SOVIET INTERESTS AND WILL SEEK TO WEAKEN GOVTS WHOSE POLICIES RUN COUNTER TO THOSE INTERESTS." THE PAKISTANI REPRESENTATIVE TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE PROPOSED CHANGE AND AFTER SOME DISCUSSION IT WAS AGREED THAT THE TWO REPRESENTATIVES WOULD MEET AND ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

5. IN THE THIRD SENTENCE OF PARA 4, THE TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSED "HAS DEVELOPED" BE CHANGED TO "HAS BEEN TRYING TO DEVELOP." ALL OTHER REPRESENTATIVES AGREED TO THAT CHANGE AND THE PARAGRAPH WAS APPROVED BY ALL EXCEPT THE IRANIAN WHO RESERVED HIS POSITION PENDING INSTRUCTION WITH RESPECT TO THE UNDERLINED PORTION OF THE FINAL SENTENCE.

6. AFTER GENERAL AGREEMENT OF THE SUBSTITUTION OF "FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE AT HELSINKI" FOR HELSINKI PACT, ALL REPRESENTATIVES APPROVED PARA 5. THE US REPRESENTATIVE QUESTIONED THE DESIRABILITY OF INCLUDING THE LAST HALF OF THE FINAL SENTENCE PRIOR TO STATING HIS AGREEMENT. (ALL ACTIONS OF THE PWG ARE UNDERSTOOD TO BE AD REFERENDUM.)

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PAGE 03 ANKARA 07176 200823Z

7. BOTH THE UK AND PAKISTAN OFFERED COMPLETELY NEW VERSIONS OF PARA 6. ONCE AGAIN IT WAS AGREED THOSE TWO REPRESENTATIVES WOULD TRY TO SEEK A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE VERSION. PARA 7 WAS APPROVED BY ALL REPRESENTATIVES. THE MEETING THEN ADJOURNED WITHOUT REACHING THE PARAS WHERE WE AND THE PAKISTANIS HAVE BASIC DIFFERENCES (REF B). NEXT PWG MEETING IS EXPECTED TO BE HELD FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER.

FRANCIS

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